

CLAIMS

1. A probe for the small intestines comprising
a probe tube (4) comprising a tip area (6) and a tip (2) having an outlet opening
(1), and

a guide stylet (5) with a curved tip area (6'),
wherein the flexibility of the probe tube (4) and the guide stylet (5) are such that, in the
absence of an external force, the shape of the guide stylet (5) is substantially imparted
on the tip area (6) of the probe tube (4) when inserted therein.

2. The probe of claim 1, wherein the probe tube (4) is more flexible in the tip
area (6) than in the rest of the tube.

3. The probe of claim 1, wherein the guide stylet has a spherically shaped tip
(11).

4. The probe of claim 1, wherein the probe tube is thinner in the tip area (6)
than in the rest of the probe tube (4).

5. The probe of claim 1, further comprising additional outlet openings (3) in the
tip area (6).

6. The probe of claim 1, wherein the probe tube (4) is made from a plastic
material.

7. The probe of claim 1, wherein the guide stylet (5) is made from a metal
having a memory-effect.

8. The probe of claim 1, further comprising a termination (8) for connecting the
guide stylet (5) to the probe tube (4).

9. The probe tube of claim 1, further comprising a spray connector (7) on the

probe tube (4).

10. The probe of claim 1, wherein the guide stylet (5) is sufficiently flexible so that it does not impart its shape on the probe tube (4) when the probe tube (4) is inserted in a human esophagus.

11. The probe of claim 1, further comprising an inner stiffening tube (14) which does not extend into the tip area (6) of the probe tube (4).

12. The probe of claim 11, wherein the inner stiffening tube (14) is sufficiently rigid so that when the inner stiffening tube (14) and the guide stylet (5) are inserted into the probe tube (4), the guide stylet (5) does not substantially impart its shape on the inner stiffening tube (14).

13. The probe of claim 1, further comprising a sheath (13) on the probe tube (4) which is sufficiently rigid so that when the guide stylet (5) is inserted into the probe tube (4), the guide stylet (5) does not substantially impart its shape on the probe tube (4).

14. A process for delivering fluid to the small intestine with the probe of claim 1, comprising the steps of

inserting the probe tube (4) into a patient's stomach by way of the patient's esophagus,

inserting the guide stylet (5) into the probe tube (4),

inserting the tip (2) of the probe tube (4) into the patient's small intestines by way of the patient's pylorus, and

passing the fluid through a lumen (9) and the opening (1) of the probe tube.

15. The process of claim 14, further comprising the step of spraying X-ray contrast medium into the probe tube (4) prior to inserting the tip (2) of the probe tube

(4) into the small intestines.

16. The process of claim 14, further comprising inserting a second straight stylet into the probe tube (4) prior to inserting the probe tube (4) into the stomach.